

School Board President Shakes Off Death Threats to Defend Godly Policies

A California school board president who has faced death threats and disturbing messages after passing a parental rights policy last month is doubling down on her position.

Sonja Shaw, president of the Chino Valley Unified School District Board of Education, told CBN's Faithwire the slew of diabolical threats and messages is "a little bizarre" and said the reaction came after she and other board members opted to defend parental notification rights.

"It was a simple notification policy," Shaw said. "There were certain things when I [was] a candidate that parents were voicing concerns about, and that's why this policy was so special."

The school board leader said the issue extends well beyond Chino Valley, though, as she's hearing from people all over California who agree parents should be notified of their child's decision to identify as their non-biological gender. The Chino Valley policy mandates parents be notified within three days.

"I'm grateful that we were able to bring a model policy forward for something like that," Shaw said. "But ... we did get some heat for it, but I do want to say, even though there's heat, there is so much support from all over the nation, which I truly appreciate it from the bottom of my heart."

Prior to Shaw's 2022 school board run, she was part of a local grassroots advocacy group in her community. As California policies in Sacramento continued to impact families, she felt the situation started to "break some trust between the

government and ... families.”

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“It’s really sad when you have all these proposed bills that kind of push the family unit away and they start creating some kind of weird secret relationship with our children,” Shaw said. “And we don’t drop our kids off to have some weird relationship.”

She said it’s one thing for teachers to speak and listen to children—something she appreciates. But Shaw said educators should “partner” with parents rather than conceal details.

☒ This is one of the core factors driving the Chino Valley parental rights policy.

“Developing this policy is sending a message back that ... we’re done,” Shaw said. “We’re done with them trying to break up the family unit. Parents need to be involved.”

She continued, “And to be quite honest, to assume that parents are dangerous, I think, is a dangerous thing, and I think it’s vile coming from the government—that they’re assuming that parents, right off the bat, are dangerous to their children.”

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